

ABSTRACT

When an image signal, which was picked up in a 24p image format and temporarily recorded on a temporary recording device, is read in a 60i image format, the image signal is subjected to a 2:3:2:3 pull-down conversion process so that it becomes possible to omit compressing/expanding processes. At this time, the reading operation is controlled on the basis of the figure of time codes so that the pull-down conversion system at the time of a joining image-pickup process is maintained. In this case, by properly switching controlling methods among a plurality of pull-down controlling methods, it is possible to achieve an image conversion system capable of providing an optimal image conversion process in accordance with desired image-pickup purposes and editing processes.